

32 would precipitate a rejection of claim 42 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, because claim 42 depends from cancelled claim 32.

In order to overcome this objection, claim 42 is amended by this Amendment so that it is now dependent on pending claim 35, instead of cancelled claim 32.

In view of these amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that this application is now in condition for allowance. Prompt issuance of a Notice of Allowance with claims 17, 18, 23, 33, 35, 42, 43 and 45 to 53 is earnestly solicited.

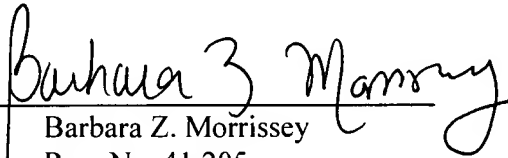
The Advisory Action also indicated that the Notice of Appeal filed on February 29, 2000 is not acceptable because there is no rejection remaining in this application. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request a refund of the Appeal fee of \$300.00 which was paid by Check No. 9181 and accompanied the Notice of Appeal filed on February 23, 2000. The refund may be credited to Deposit Account No. 50-0320 if that is more convenient for the Patent Office.

In view of these amendments, remarks and the petition for a one (1) month extension of time, it is respectfully asserted that this application is now in condition for allowance. Issuance of a Notice of Allowance with claims 17, 18, 23, 33, 35, 42, 43, and 45 to 53 is earnestly solicited.

Applicants have made an earnest effort to overcome each and every objection. If there are any minor issues that remain as an impediment to allowance, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned by telephone.

Respectfully submitted,

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